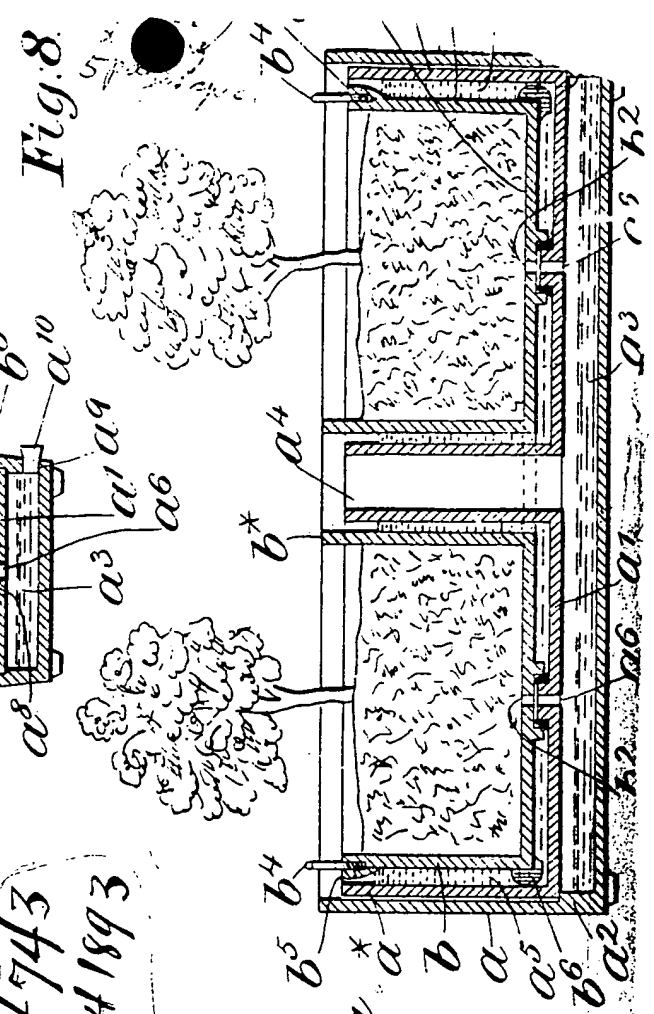
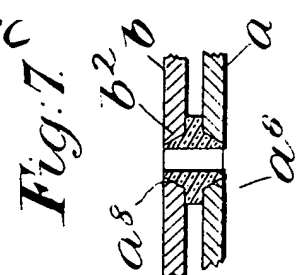
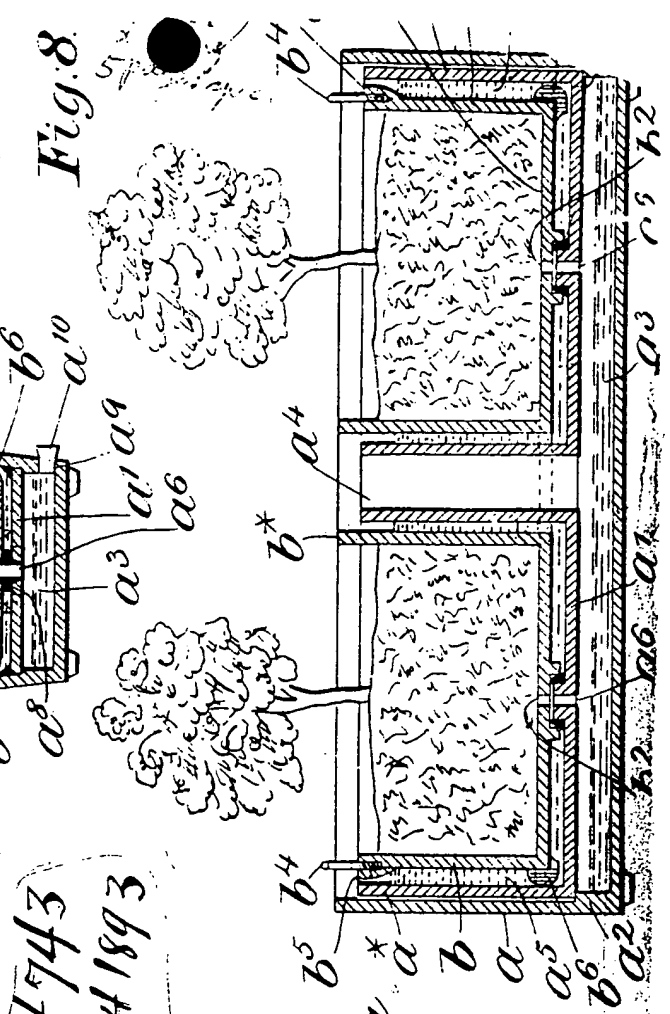
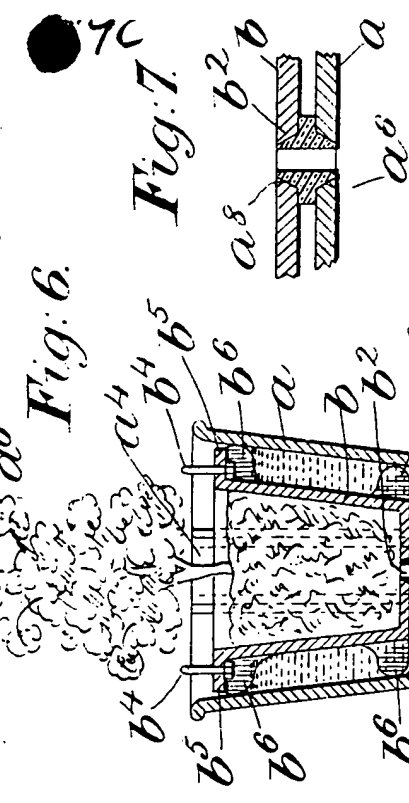
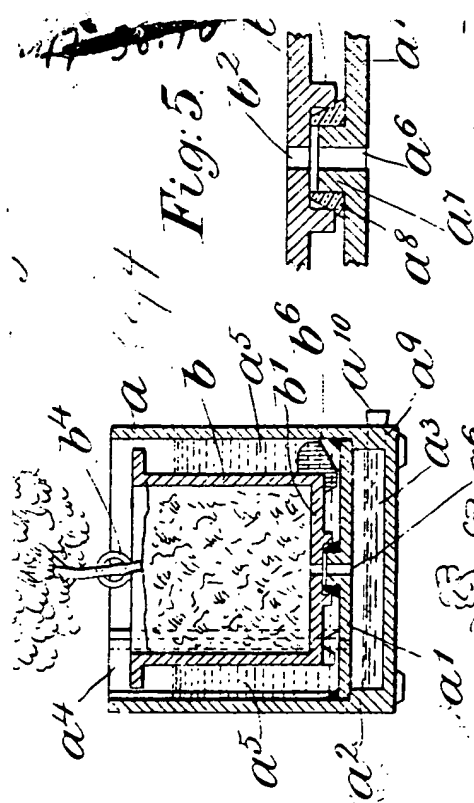


Smith 4743  
Mch. 4 1893



N° 4743



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*Date of Application, 4th Mar., 1893**Complete Specification Left, 4th Dec., 1893—Accepted, 6th Jan., 1894*

## PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION.

**Improvements in or connected with Flower Boxes, Vases, Pots, or other like Holders for Growing Flowers or Plants.**

I THOMAS JOHN SMITH of Springfield Farm Tooting in the County of Surrey Gardener do hereby declare the nature of this invention to be as follows:—

My invention relates to improvements in or connected with flower boxes vases, 5 pots, or other like holders for growing flowers, or plants.

In window and like gardening serious trouble commonly arises from the watering of the flowers or plants inasmuch as the water frequently more or less overflows the box or other holder to the injury of anything beneath, and the damage to buildings arising from placing these devices upon portico and other roofs has become 10 so apparent that it is now customary to insert in an agreement for letting an important house a prohibitory clause in this respect.

Flower boxes and the like are usually placed outside windows or in other exposed situations and the natural consequence is that the heat of the sun speedily evaporates the moisture from the earth and unless great attention be given to the 15 plants this results in serious injury to or the destruction of the plants.

Now the objects of my present invention are to obviate the disadvantages above pointed out.

For this purpose I employ an outer vessel provided with a false bottom beneath which is a chamber or receiver for drainage water and in a suitable position in the 20 interior of the outer vessel I arrange a vertical tube or well which at its lower end is connected in a watertight manner with the false bottom and communicates with the drainage chamber whilst at its upper end it rises to or nearly to the top of the wall of the outer vessel.

Within the outer vessel I arrange a moveable inner vessel which is of such 25 dimensions that there is a considerable space between the walls of the two vessels and in the bottom of the inner vessel I provide one or more (preferably two) perforations or drainage ways and in the false bottom of the outer vessel I provide corresponding perforations or ways.

In order to automatically make a tight joint between the bottom of the inner 30 vessel and the false bottom of the outer vessel at the perforations when the inner vessel is placed in position I fix in or around each of the perforations of the false bottom a short conical tube of rubber or other suitable material so that when the inner vessel is placed in position in the outer one the conical rubber tubes will enter the perforations of the inner vessel and by the weight of the latter and its contents 35 hereinafter referred to make a perfectly tight joint.

Or I employ any other suitable device which will automatically make the necessary tight joint upon the placing of the inner vessel in position within the outer one.

The inner vessel I fill with earth and I plant therein the flowers or the like 40 previously to placing the inner vessel in position within the outer one and when the inner vessel is so placed the plants may be watered in the usual way when any drainage water will find its way through the perforations and tubular connections into the drainage chamber whilst should the plants be so profusely watered as to cause an overflow from the inner vessel such overflow will be received 45 by the outer vessel.

When the plants have been once freely watered the water for future operations of that kind may be drawn from the well by means of a syringe or the like and

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Or I employ any other suitable device which will automatically make the necessary tight joint upon the placing of the inner vessel in position within the outer one.

The inner vessel I fill with earth, and I plant therein the flowers or the like previously to placing the inner vessel in position within the outer one, and when the inner vessel is so placed the plants may be watered in the usual way when any drainage water will find its way through the perforations and tubular connections into the drainage chamber whilst should the plants be so profusely watered as to cause an overflow from the inner vessel, such overflow will be received by the outer vessel.

When the plants have been once freely watered, the water for future operations of that kind may be drawn from the well by means of a syringe or the like, and thus the same water may be used repeatedly, it being necessary only to add a small quantity from time to time in order to make up for the loss consequent upon evaporation.

The space between the inner and outer vessels I fill or nearly fill with water, and I thus obtain a wall of water around the inner vessel, which serves to protect the contents against the extreme heat of the sun, and in some cases I form the walls of the inner vessel partly or wholly of porous material such for example as unglazed pottery so as to admit of a slight filtration of water from the outer to the inner vessel in order to render the cooling action more effective and to keep the earth moist.

And in order that the said invention may be more clearly understood and readily carried into effect I will proceed aided by the accompanying drawings more fully to describe the same.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS.

Figure 1 is a longitudinal section of a flower box constructed according to the present invention.

Figure 2 is a plan thereof.

Figure 3 is a front elevation thereof.

Figure 4 is a transverse section taken on the line 1—1 of Figure 1, and

Figure 5 represents a detail view of parts drawn to an enlarged scale.

Figure 6 is a vertical transverse section of a flower pot or vase constructed according to the present invention and embodying a slight modification.

Figure 7 represents a portion of Figure 6 drawn to an enlarged scale.

Figure 8 is a similar view to Figure 1 but representing a slight modification.

In the several figures like parts are indicated by similar letters of reference.

Referring to Figures 1 to 5, *a* represents the outer vessel which is provided with a false bottom *a*<sup>1</sup> which rests upon a shoulder or step *a*<sup>2</sup> and is there secured in a watertight manner by any suitable cement.

Beneath the false bottom *a*<sup>1</sup> is a chamber or receiver *a*<sup>3</sup> for drainage water, and in one corner of the interior of the outer vessel, or it might be in other suitable position and even on the exterior, is arranged a vertical tube or well *a*<sup>4</sup> which at its lower end is connected in a watertight manner with the false bottom *a*<sup>1</sup> and communicates with the drainage chamber *a*<sup>3</sup> whilst at its upper end the tube or well *a*<sup>4</sup> rises to, or nearly to the top of the wall of the outer vessel *a*.

Within the outer vessel *a* is arranged a moveable inner vessel *b* which is of such dimensions that there is a considerable space *a*<sup>5</sup> between the walls of the two vessels *a b*.

In the bottom *b*<sup>1</sup> of the inner vessel *b* are provided two or there might be a greater or lesser number of perforations *b*<sup>2</sup>, and in the false bottom *a*<sup>1</sup> of the outer vessel *a* are provided corresponding perforations or ways *a*<sup>6</sup>.

In order to automatically make a tight joint between the bottom *b*<sup>1</sup> of the inner vessel *b* and the false bottom *a*<sup>1</sup> of the outer vessel *a*, at the perforations or drainage ways *b*<sup>2</sup> *a*<sup>6</sup> when the inner vessel is placed in position, around each of the perforations *a*<sup>6</sup> of the false bottom and at the upper side thereof is formed a short

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The means for making a tight joint between the false bottom  $a^1$  of the outer vessel and the bottom  $b^1$  of the inner vessel are similar to those hereinbefore described with respect to Figures 1 to 5 but in this case in lieu of placing the well  $a^1$  at one corner of the outer vessel  $a$  it is placed centrally thereof, is circular in form and is carried by the false bottom  $a^1$  whilst the inner vessel  $b$  is formed with a central tube  $b^*$  to receive the same.

In cases where it is only desired to protect the contents of the inner vessel  $b$  from the heat of the sun, the false bottom  $a^1$  may be dispensed with and the inner vessel  $b$  which in this case is imperforate may rest directly or through the intervention of feet upon the bottom of the vessel  $a$  or may be formed or fixed with the bottom of the vessel  $a$ .

I may here remark that I have hereinbefore shown and described the best means that I am at present acquainted with for carrying my invention into effect but it will be evident that the details of construction of the apparatus may be to some extent varied such for example as the means for making a tight joint between the inner and outer vessels without departing from the peculiar character of my invention.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of the said invention and in what manner the same is to be performed I declare that what I claim is:—

1. In a flower box or holder the combination of an outer vessel provided with a false bottom an inner vessel capable of removal from the outer vessel and formed of such dimensions as to leave a water space all round between the two vessels a drainage way or ways in the bottom of the inner vessel a corresponding way or ways in the false bottom of the outer vessel and means for ensuring a tight joint between the bottom of the inner vessel and the false bottom of the outer vessel at the ways substantially as herein shown and described.

2. In a flower box or holder the combination of an outer vessel provided with a false bottom an inner vessel capable of removal from the outer vessel and formed of such dimensions as to leave a water space all round between the two vessels a drainage way or ways in the bottom of the inner vessel a corresponding way or ways in the false bottom of the outer vessel means for ensuring a tight joint between the bottom of the inner vessel and the false bottom of the outer vessel at the ways and a well or tube communicating with the drainage chamber beneath the false bottom substantially as herein shown and described and for the purpose stated.

3. In combination with a flower box of the character referred to in Claim 1 a conical or bevelled rubber or equivalent tube or ring for automatically making a tight joint between the false bottom of the outer vessel and the bottom of the inner vessel substantially as herein shown and described.

4. In a flower box or holder the combination with an outer vessel, of an imperforate inner vessel formed of porous or other material or of both combined and of such dimensions as to leave a water space all round between the two vessels substantially as herein described and for the purpose stated.

5. A flower box or holder consisting of an imperforate vessel formed of porous or other material or of both combined surrounded by a water jacket substantially as herein described and for the purpose stated.

Dated this 4th day of December 1893.

WHITE & WOODINGTON,  
27, Southampton Buildings, London, Agents.